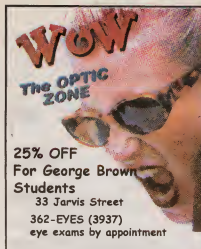


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## WHERE'S FRANK?



College Board of Governors meets to plan new Student Centre at Casa Loma Campus.

Student Association (SA) President Jodi spoke briefly with members of the Board of Governors concerning a new student centre on the main floor of the proposed new Casa Loma building. See cover

## SPORTS/LEISURE



### The Biker in Winter

Ever think those guys are crazy? Winter bikers get no respect. Get tips from the expert when it comes to winter biking. Jake the Biker tells you how to bike year round p.5

## KPI's



important Key Performance Indicators are and why every eligible student should participate in this important evaluation process.

Key Performance Indicators (KPI) set for February 5-18

So just what are KPIs, and why is everyone talking about them? Find out the whole poop on just how

## GBC BEST COLLEGE



### The Little College That Grew Near The Sun

A glowing Frank Soroichinsky gratefully accepted the Toronto Sun Readership Award for Toronto's Best College. Sun readers voted for George Brown College as the best college in the GTA. Just in time for Key Performance Indicators (KPI). See p.8



# BUILDING OUR FUTURE

by Allan Stokell, Student Association  
Just before the Winter Break, George Brown College (GBC) Board of Governors met to hear details about our College's building projects.

The Director of Facilities Management, Bashar Amer presented an update on new building developments at the College. The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities has given GBC funds, under the SuperBuild initiative to create new facilities to accommodate 1,800 new students. Architect Gene Kinoshita presented plans to the Board for new buildings at both the Casa Loma and St. James campus. By far the most elaborate are the plans for Casa Loma. An entire new building will replace the current facade on McPherson Avenue. (See front cover.) This building will greatly improve both the look and function on the Casa Loma

campus. Two new elevators at the front of the building will help with accessibility issues, long a source of contention at the College.

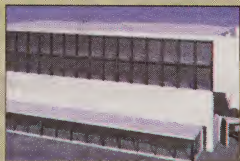
Most of the main floor of the new building will be a new Student Centre, financed by the

George Brown College Student Association (SA). Other floors will house classrooms and Excellence Centres.

At St. James campus, the parking lot behind Hospitality Building will be replaced with a 5-story addition. (See inset) If approved by the City of Toronto Committee of

Adjustment, the College will own no parking spaces at the St. James campus. A small number of spaces will be leased in the neighbourhood.

Final details of a joint Ryerson Polytechnical University and GBC project is still in the schematic diagram stage and will be discussed by the Board in the New Year.



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# Full-time students:

**We care about  
your opinions!**



George Brown cares what students think about the college, its courses and programs and the learning environment. Every year we survey students several times about their attitudes and opinions, and then use the data we collect to make meaningful changes in our programs and services.

From February 5 to 16, 2001 George Brown, in co-operation with the Student Association, will be conducting the Student Satisfaction KPI surveys in all post-secondary programs. If you are a student registered in the second semester or above of a program and working towards a diploma you can look forward to an opportunity to have your voice heard.

The results of this survey will allow the college an opportunity to chart its progress and set even higher performance goals. We thank you for your co-operation during the survey period,

Frank Sorochinsky  
President  
George Brown College

Jodi Shannahan,  
President,  
Student Association  
of George Brown College



If you have any questions about the survey call John Price at (416) 415-2543



The Dialog Collective, the publishers of the Dialog newspaper, creates many part-time jobs and honoraria positions for George Brown College students. The cost of producing a bi-weekly newspaper is in part defrayed by advertising revenue. Occasionally, some advertisers, products, and services do not reflect the policies of the Student Association of George Brown College. The Collective reviews advertising policy from time to time at our weekly meetings. Students concerned about advertising, which encourages student debt, bad health habits, or having other concerns about specific ads are encouraged to attend these meetings. If you wish to be on our agenda, contact us by phone at (416) 415-2710 fax (416) 415-2491 or at dialog@canada.com



Dialog is a Member of the Canadian University Press (CUP). Our national advertising agency is Campus Plus. Contributions to Dialog are always gratefully accepted. Written work in plain text (TXT) or ASCII (DOS) text please. Images should be on Mac or PC platform in EPS format for vector images or TIFF for bitmap. It is requested that you submit a hard copy of your work with the disk. Original work only please. Credit any Internet content. Opinions expressed in Dialog are not necessarily those of the Dialog Collective, the Student Association of George Brown College, or its editorial staff. Dialog will not publish any material that attempts to incite violence or hatred against individuals or groups, particularly based on race, national origin, ethnicity, colour, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.

## LETTERS

### KPI's not a place to vent anger and frustration

Dear Editor,

As a long time reader (three years) of the Dialog, I feel I must write at this time about Key Performance Indicators (KPI) I know in the past students have used KPIs to vent their anger and frustration at the College. Not only is this an inappropriate forum for such actions, it actually damages our reputation in the eyes of other students and potential students. The idea of KPIs is to improve the quality of services provided to the students.

There are a series of Student Forums (first one at Casa Loma Campus on January 29th) that allow students to discuss their concerns with College representatives.

I suggest students truly concerned let their views be known at the forums then fairly evaluate the College when filling out the KPIs.

I will also remind people that giving the College a failing grade is like shooting yourself and others in the foot. The wily provincial Tories now tie provincial funding to KPI performance,

Name Withheld

## Dunk McDougall and his Li'l Buddy James

By Ace Hammersmith



## TIME FOR A CHANGE

by Allan Stokell,  
Student Association

Welcome to our new look Dialog. We've taken many ideas and suggestions you've made over the last few months and tried to put them together in a more refined look.

The Front page now gives us a headline above that cued quarter fold. There are more pictures, all be it, they are smaller. The typeface is a little smaller too, so we can fit a bit more on the page.

We have a standardized Entertainment, Sports and Comments page. You'll notice we have expanded our streetier interviews to include more people from our college community.

We have more College news about what is happening and next semester we hope to embrace a whole new method of getting Dialog to the press.

As Communications Manager for the Student Association it is my job to oversee the student production of this paper. I guarantee it gets out on time and contains the right advertisements.

I am pleased to say that students, and now more often faculty are responsible for the content.

I always say that each issue of Dialog is a

work in progress, a snapshot of what our college is at any one moment in time. Sometimes we are slick and smart and sometimes we are full of typos and poor grammar. That is the way life is. Over the holidays I was surprised to see a glaring typo in a headline in the Times of London. Obviously we are not the only ones who make errors when working to a deadline. We always work towards perfection and correction at a time.

Four of our new student staff members are going to Vancouver this month to the convention of the Canadian University Press (CUP). This will be a tremendous opportunity for all of us to expand our knowledge of journalism and the national student press. CUP president Jeremy Nelson always likes to remind delegates that they come back from conferences changed people.

We have been fund raising since November and I'm very pleased to be able to say that our fund raising effort have been most successful. Thank you to the Board of Directors of the Student Association and the Presidents Office for their outstanding support. Thank you too to everyone who helped us get to Vancouver

I have had the honour of working with student journalists for the past three years and I'm pleased to say that I find them a great bunch to work with. Their ideas and

enthusiasm make getting up and going to work in the morning a pleasure rather than a chore.

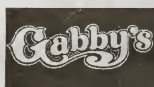
Three years ago, the Dialog didn't have a permanent office and rarely published. If you come to the office of the Dialog Collective today you will find it to be a very busy place. These student employees, placements, volunteers and interns make this place so busy I have no place to work.

Also welcomed this semester are Faghr Ahmed and Naghmeh Arshad. Faghr and Naghmeh are first-year Community Worker students on their placement this semester.

Over the next six issues of Dialog, they will be exploring the various trials that new comers face when they arrive in Canada. A big welcome to our January students. We at the Collective invite you to join us in the publication of a real newspaper. We need help with everything from writing and illustrating stories to layout and design and pre-press. The next meeting of the Dialog Collective is on Thursday, February 1, 2001 at the Dialog Collective office, room 167B SJ. We invite you to attend. Call 416-415-2710 for more details. dialog@canada.com

# THANK YOU

We would like to thank the members of our college community who assisted our student delegates raise funds to attend the annual conference of the Canadian University Press in Vancouver.



The Board of Directors of the Student Association  
 The Presidents Office  
 Second Cup—St. James  
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 Jason Federman  
 John Koutsis  
 Sera Gordon  
 Lori Foran  
 Clare Bermingham  
 Marlene Scimé





# DIACycle

## WINTER BIKING FOR WIMPS

by Jake the Biker,  
Dialog Collective Volunteer

Time was when I'd have the road to myself in the winter. All those summer bikers would disappear after the first frost, only to reappear the next spring like migrating birds. Not so now.

Winter biking has become a popular sport and some punters go out in weather I would go out in even if I was driving one of those Urban Assault Vehicles (SUV).

I stopped biking the last week of school because it snowed real bad. I took the TTC transit for those days and just about died. My average trip time was one hour to go 8 kilometres. Sometimes it took two hours! No wonder there are so many bikes on the road.

It turned cold after that, but I got back on my bike the following week and haven't quit since.

If you are pissed-off at the TTC too, consider doing the bike route. If you already have a bike, a bit more equipment will help keep you safe and warm.

The first thing is to check your bike at a bike shop. They can make lots of practical suggestions. My guys

recommend one of those knobby tires, that are even knobbier on the sides. The idea being that you get good traction on a relatively smooth surface, but even better traction when the snow gets deep. I see people biking in the winter with thin slick tires, but I would be afraid they wouldn't offer much traction.

Proper clothing is an important thing too. Layers are the secret. If you bike more than half an hour, or at a rate that will make you sweat, investing in a wicking layer next to your skin is a good idea unless you enjoy hypothermia.

For years I wore a 100% cotton t-shirt next to my skin followed by layers of clothes. Over the years I have developed a system which works well for me. I wear a wicking layer, followed by a warm-up top, which is a long sleeved top made of 100% acetate. You will recognize them, because there are thousands of tiny holes in them. My next layer is a fleece jacket followed by a Gortex® shell. On the bottom I wear a pair of foul weather sailing pants made of cotton lined rubber.

My outfit is completed with a pair of lined leather gloves and a toque which fits under my helmet.

wearing a toque. I top my helmet with one of those plastic shower caps you find in hotel washrooms. This

This outfit keeps me warm on the coldest days. I've tested it down to -15C.

Once you've figured out what to wear, the next step is to figure out how to survive on the street.

Toronto drivers are among the most inattentive in the world, so be aware. If it snows, or is frosty they can't see out of their windows and mirrors, so watch out. I just assume that all drivers have shit for brains, and that seems to work. The 140 Db air horn helps.

Ontario law allows me to use all of one lane. In the interest of safety, I only use the portion of the lane I need for my own security. Often the inside lane has slush or ice on the surface. Go at a regular pace and don't drop your bike. If you do, get on the sidewalk fast because you can't trust the drivers to stop.

For some stupid reason, the city does not clear bike lanes in the winter. I don't use them unless they are clear, because a bike lane full of ice and slush is much more dangerous than taking a lane in traffic.

Bike well and live long.  
Comments or questions?  
[dialog@canada.com](mailto:dialog@canada.com)



I also have tube ear covers to use on warmer days instead of a toque. The ear covers doubles as a mouth cover on those colder days when I'm

prevents too much heat being lost from my head.

On my feet, I wear a pair of wool socks and stout leather shoes.

# BOOK REVIEWS

## Finding New Years Salvation

by: Melanie Walbridge,  
Dialog Collective Writer

It is the dawning of yet another year to set goals, make plans for the inevitable future, and do all those things we were meaning to do in 2000 but never got around to doing. A.K.A. the New Year's Resolution. Awakening our spirituality, finance & career planning, health & fitness goals, it all seems to remain popular amongst New Year's resolutions. One of the first plans to look to aid in achieving success in resolutions is the BOOK.

Thousands of books exist on the various resolution topics, but some series do provide the information that people need in an easy to understand, often compact format, which is a blessing to most students. Additionally, as we have begun the new millennium, the Internet is playing a far more vital role in information, which does work nicely with

books. The book publishing industry has had to embrace the need for a 'com' format for further promotion on their subject matter. Numerous book series now have websites of their own pertaining to their topics. In the search for New Year's resolutions, these book series are perfect for your New Year success.

Spirituality is a topic that is consistent with Oprah's list of book series. Her picks remain best sellers across the globe in aiding those looking to further understand themselves within this crazy world through both fiction and non. The most current pick is the novel, "House of Sand and Fog," by Andre Dubus III. It is described as a devastating exploration of the American dream which has gone wrong. It is a novel that dives into the depth of despair through three characters who collide in a tiny house in the hills of California. Often times understanding mistakes others make tend to

make one stronger or gain a better understanding of oneself and the choices made in life. An on-line chat with the author will be conducted on the [Oprah.com](http://Oprah.com) website January 24th for those net savvy. The [Oprah.com](http://Oprah.com) website also provides a complete listing of Oprah books and reviews.

Finance and Career planning is something that everyone can relate to. Much of what we hope to accomplish is finding the right job and planning financially for the future whether it be RRSPs or paying off that pesky student loan. The [For Dummies series](http://For Dummies series) can help in both regards. Interviewing for Dummies, Cool Careers for Dummies, and Resumes for Dummies are all great titles for helping you target specific areas one may be lacking in knowledge. Personal Finance for Dummies, a best seller, by author Eric Tyson, is one I personally recommend as being a great source of information for planning for

student loan payments and giving you practical tools on saving money. [IDG Books](http://IDG Books) provides a website for the Dummies series

**HYPERLINK**  
[www.dummies.com](http://www.dummies.com) gives you a full listing of every book in the series and provides a brief description to each book. You can also subscribe to an E-list of daily quotes that may act to motivate in your Finance and Career Planning goals.

Last but not least, Health & Fitness remains as one of the top New Year's goals. This is such a huge range from eating healthier to relieving stress to getting into shape. Kathy Smith has been providing health and fitness advice since the early 80's and was the inventor of the aerobics workout VHS tape. She proclaims, "Through exercise, you can find a healthy, positive outlook for yourself and share it." Kathy has a monthly column in Self magazine and also answers

questions on-line at her website, [kathy.smith.com](http://kathy.smith.com). She has published several books and numerous workout video's and relaxation tapes. Instead of spending big bucks on health clubs Kathy's books and video's remain well under 20 bucks. Her most current books are, "Kathy Smith's Lift Weights to Lose Weight," where toning the upper and lower body is emphasized and Kathy Smith's, "Getting Better All the Time," where the whole of health and fitness is explored. Kathy Smith's Relaxation System video is the newest upon hundreds of titles to choose from. Most books stores now contain a wide assortment of not only books but video's and DVD's as well.

As you begin the start of yet another year perhaps these books, video's, and websites can enlighten and enhance success in your New Year resolutions.

# COMMUNITY

## Lessons Which Make Life Work

By Sharon Kamassah  
Life Works Manager

...The oppressor never voluntarily gives freedom to the oppressed. You have to work for it... Freedom is never given to anybody, for the oppressor has in domination because he plans to keep you there and he never voluntarily gives it up. And that is where the strong resistance comes - privileged classes never give up their privileges without strong resistance.

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Strong resistance.

Over the past few weeks, I've been reading several speeches and sermons of a man who is held in the hearts of many nations as the great leader of the civil rights movement. In passage after passage, he casts this concept of strong resistance. He postulates that freedom is a direct product of strong resistance. The two ideas juxtaposed don't seem to belong in the same sentence let alone be intimately joined to one another, so one may dismiss the whole statement as nonsensical. Let's look at this from a personal perspective. Why do I need to resist? Am I not free? Who are the privileged? Who are the oppressed? Does this have anything to do with me? Why should I care?

I was raised in this country. I have a post secondary education. I have a good job, some would even say an enviable job. I've traveled and seen a bit of the world. I vote. I pay taxes. I have a family, a house, a car...all I'm missing is the big fluffy dog. Based on all these assets, life is going my way so why do I need to resist? What more could I possibly want?

One thing I admire about the late Dr. King is that when he spoke and when he acted on his words, he essentially expressed a commitment to serving in the best interest of all people. When he talked about resistance, he wasn't talking about entering into a war or physical struggle with others. According to the Webster's dictionary, to resist means to oppose actively, to strive against and withstand. The more I read and listen, the more I realize Dr. King meant to resist discrimination in the purest sense of the word. Apathy, inaction and silence indirectly condone discrimination. Regardless of whom the injustice is impacting, we all have a responsibility to take a stand and resist that oppressive belief and action. When we support one another we are ultimately supporting ourselves. We are building alliances.

Injustice and prejudice has many faces. Being excluded, set up for failure, accepted as a token or exception, silenced, misrepresented and stereotyped are but a few ways people are demeaned and treated unfairly. Think about it:

When I am asked everyday, "So where are you from?", despite the fact I speak with a Canadian accent, am I

wrong in thinking that I am perceived as not belonging here...?

When I am sitting in my office with a big green identification badge slung around my neck and someone enters the space asking me if I could direct him/her to Sharon, the manager, am I wrong in thinking that I am perceived as unworthy or unqualified for this position...?

When I am browsing in an upscale boutique and keep spying the same person over my shoulder watching me as I weave my way through the aisles, am I wrong in thinking that I am perceived as untrustworthy...?

When I mention I have a child and the person casually comments how tough it must be raising her on my own, despite the fact I am wearing a wedding band, am I wrong in thinking that I am perceived to be a stereotypical single mother...?

Did I mention I happen to be a black woman?

These are but a few examples. Prejudice is expressed in an array of different ways.

On the flip side, as an educated, employed, fairly settled citizen I realize I have a lot of privilege. I, as most of us do, have many opportunities at my disposal to make a difference in the community. Some ways that we may make a difference are by:

- \* Creating and supporting safe spaces
- \* Being open and accepting of others
- \* Organizing and sharing ideas in diverse groups
- \* Being mindful not to misrepresent or speak for others
- \* Educating ourselves about other communities and perceptions

It is very easy for me to be complacent. My life is comfortable. However, I realize that my present comfort comes on the backs of millions of people who struggled, spoke out and unflinchingly declared that we shall overcome!

We as a people are worthy of respect, recognition and freedom.

For this reason over all others, I too resist.

**Thank you Martin for your wisdom and service.**  
**May your spirit burn eternal.**

January 15, 2001

**What are your thoughts about this article?**  
**Send your opinions to the Dialog,**  
**dialog@canada.com, Attention: Sharon.**

**Are you interested in supporting student services or your contribution to our college community? If so call 416-415-2846 or drop by the Student Association office to find out how you can volunteer today.**

## Part Time Administrative Assistants

The Life Works Centre was created to provide students with the necessary space and support to make our college experience successful. We are currently seeking two energetic and creative Administrative Assistants.

**The major responsibilities of these positions are to:**

- \* Facilitate event logistics
- \* Provide phone coverage
- \* Provide referrals
- \* Coordinate data systems
- \* Research information for fundraising and project purposes
- \* Do community outreach
- \* Type reports, correspondence and minutes as assigned
- \* Complete tasks as needed

**The Administrative Assistants will have:**

- \* Good written and verbal communication skills
- \* Exceptional facilitation skills, ie. listening, sharing, open exchange with others
- \* Good attention to detail
- \* Ability to handle multiple responsibilities
- \* Ability to set priorities and meet closing dates
- \* Good organizational skills
- \* Capacity to work both independently and collaboratively with others
- \* Ability to be tactful and act with discretion
- \* Commitment to providing high quality customer service

**\*\*Students who are Work Study eligible are encouraged to apply.**

**The Application Deadline is:**  
**Tuesday, January 23, 2001.**

Please forward your covering letter and resume to:  
**Sharon Kamassah, Life Works Manager**

**Life Works Centre**  
**Student Association of George Brown College**  
**200 King Street East, Room 165B**  
**Toronto, Ontario**  
**M5A 3W8**  
**Fax Number: 416-415-2846**

We would like to thank all the students who have applied. Unfortunately, we will only be contacting those selected for further consideration.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY ODA

By Judith Allen  
President,  
Organization of Students with a Disability-CBC

On November 29th, the Ontarians with Disabilities Act Committee celebrated its 6th birthday, and they have much to celebrate. In the six years of its existence, the Committee numbers have grown from a 20-member organization to one that includes thousands of members from across the province. Currently, there are more than 100 member organizations represented in 21 regional divisions. The Committee has secured three supporting resolutions from parties in the Ontario Legislature and from 20 municipal governments.

This increase in membership and media has been seen in the way the media have taken on the issue of the rights of people with disabilities. From the series recently run in the Toronto Star, coverage of ODA events on television news, and the call to show hosted by Rogers Television on

November 28th, the support for a strong and effective ODA has grown and grown.

This support has also shown itself at Queens Park. Opposition MPPs from across the province have repeatedly brought up the question of when the government of Mike Harris would fulfill its 1995 election promise and introduce ODA. MPP Steve Peters has just completed a 15-page report on the ODA Consultation Tour that he undertook earlier this year. The Dalton McGuinty, leader of the Ontario Liberal party wrote to the premier and questioned the continuing lack of a bill that he had undertaken earlier this year. MPP Ernie Parsons questioned the Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation on the governments continued inability to make good on its promise.

While these events have not led to an immediate end to the battle that the Committee has been fighting for the past six years, they have contributed to a greater awareness of the inequality that exists for people with a disability.

In time, with the continued support from members of the public, elected officials, and disability organizations across the province, the ODA Committee will achieve its goal of a barrier free Ontario for all.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMMITTEE**

### Event News

Some interesting things have been happening for students with a disability at George Brown College. November 29th was the first meeting of the OSD/Athletics group. The group came together to discuss plans for athletics events for students with a disability. The event was well attended by Deaf students, but there was a notable absence of people with other disabilities - learning, consumer/survivors of mental health services, people with mobility challenges, and people who are low-visioned or blind. It is hoped that attendance from these groups will increase once word gets out about the group.

The group decided to begin planning an event for January. We will be

holding a volleyball tournament in the middle of January. Teams will be made up of people with similar abilities and the rules will be changed to make the tournament fair and accessible to everyone. Any student (full-time or part-time) who identifies themselves as having a disability of any type - psychological, learning, physical, or mental health - will be welcome to take part. The final winners will be the two teams (one playing modified volleyball, the other playing by national rules) who show the best team spirit - not necessarily the teams who win the most games. This is because the goal of the tournament is to build relationships between students with a disability at the College. The games will be fun and only as competitive as the teams wish them to be.

### Coming Events

Many students may be aware of the recent funding that George Brown received for the building of a new facility. This facility will house science programs in a purpose built building and will be run in partnership with Ryerson University.

One of the requests put forward to the committee responsible for the construction was that the facility be made as accessible to everyone as possible. To make this happen, the Organization of Students with a Disability have been asked to submit a list that outlines what accessibility accommodations are required. This list will be forwarded to the architects, builders and project managers and, wherever possible, the needs will be accommodated in the finished building.

If there is a particular accessibility feature that you would like to see included in the building, or if you know of a building that you think is a great example of good planning, drop me a line at [accessdiva@ata.vista.com](mailto:accessdiva@ata.vista.com), leave me a note card of your Disability Services office, the Access Centre (Rm 165B at St. James Campus).

**\*\*The next meeting of the Organization of Students with a Disability will be on December 13th at 5pm in the Access Centre, Rm 165B at St. James.**



# COMMUNITY

## CAREER & EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

**We're here to help!**

For those just beginning this semester, Welcome to the City College! Make sure that you stop by the Counselling, Career & Employment Services Office at your campus. "We're here to help" with services and resources to help ensure that your college experience is successful.

**St. James/Hospitality Rm 582C**  
**Casa Loma Rm C221**  
**Nightingale Rm 105**

For those returning, as the winter semester begins, it's time not just to recover from the holidays but also to evaluate your progress. By that, I don't mean just looking at your grades but also assessing your role as a student. How many of your classmates have you spent time getting to know; do all

of your teachers know who you are, i.e. have you been participating in class; have you visited Student Affairs and found out about the services and supports we have to offer; do you know your Student Association Executive or even where your Student Association Office is?

Whether this is your first experience after High School, you have been out of school for many years, or are returning for your second or third year - you have accepted quite a challenge. It is important to realize that these years are not separate from or a prelude to, but part of your work life. John Handy in the *The Age of Unreason* defines work as all activity that we do. He describes 5 types of work: wage work for which we are

paid for the number of hours worked; fee work for which we are paid for the product or service we produce; house work, the work we do at home - cleaning, laundry, child rearing, etc.; free work that we do in our community as a volunteer; and study work which is time taken to gain new knowledge and learn new skills.

If you think of your time at GBC as "work", as part of your life's activity, then you will also realize that it can be much more fulfilling and rewarding experience if you truly become a member of the GBC community. Give yourself every opportunity to not only succeed but to enjoy your experience - that means creating a balance among your many roles and types of work that you currently manage.

Learning to creatively balance our roles

is one of the most important skills for all of us to acquire. You have had the first semester to monitor yourself - if you are experiencing difficulty, GET HELP. There are many services to assist you, including Peer Tutoring, Counselling, Career & Employment Services, Disability Services, Worklink. Also, make sure that as part of your work as a student, you include time to get involved in campus life. A good place to start is visiting your Student Association Office and dropping by the Athletics Office at your campus.

"The challenge is not to manage time, but to manage ourselves."

Steven Covey, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*

**Franky Chernin, Coordinator**  
**Student Success, Student Affairs**

### WE WANT YOU!!

Give this semester the boost it needs!

Join the Student Association Volunteer team And see why our members are successfully leading the way!!

There are a variety of fun and challenging opportunities just waiting for ambitious and creative people like you so...

What are you waiting for??

**Give Sharon Kamassah a call at:**  
**416-415-2846**

### You Say You Need A Space?

A safe space to conduct meetings?  
An accessible space to create and facilitate forums concerning:

Clubs  
Disability issues  
LGBT concerns  
Women's issues  
Poverty issues  
Wellness and Health promotion  
Support groups  
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## Hey January Students! Some important Benefits Information!

This is now the sixth year that the Student Association has provided Full-Time, domestic students of George Brown College with comprehensive health and dental benefits. The plan began in September of 1996, after students were surveyed regarding their interest in this type of coverage. The response was overwhelmingly in favour of providing this service. Over the years, the type and length of coverage have changed, but not the Student Association's commitment to offering this valuable service.

As a January student, your benefit year covers you from January 1, 2001 to August 31, 2001. The cost to students is just \$113 for the 8 months of coverage. While this is a mandatory College fee, each student does have the opportunity to apply for a refund if they have other comparable coverage. January students can also enroll their dependents (children, spouse, same sex partner, etc.) for an additional \$166, for the same coverage period of January 1, 2001 to August 31, 2001 (paid directly to the Student Benefits office in the form of a certified cheque or money order). The deadline for adding your family onto your benefits is 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 31, 2001.

If you are alternately covered, you may apply for a refund and then you will NOT be covered under the student benefits plan. The deadline for January start students applying for a refund is also 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 31, 2001. No applications received or postmarked after the applicable date will be accepted. Please note that being enrolled in another health and dental plan does not mean that you have to remove yourself from this one. It is possible to remain in both plans to increase your total coverage by co-ordinating benefits. If you do wish to receive a refund, please follow the steps below to ensure your

refund is properly processed.

Refund Steps:

1. You must fill out the Student Benefits Waiver form that is mailed to students over the break or you pick one up at the Student Benefits Office.
2. This form must be completed IN FULL and forwarded to the address on the form. Acceptable proof (e.g.: photocopy of insurance policy card) must accompany the form in order for the application to be considered valid.
3. Please remember that you will not receive your refund until any and all fees to the College have been paid in full. No exceptions.

Please note that this deadline is only applicable to January Start students as September students had a deadline in October 2000!

We look forward to working with you to improve this service even further. For more information on the student health and/or dental plan, we encourage you to call the Student Benefits Office at (416) 415-2443 to speak with the Student Benefits Administrator. You can also stop by either of the Student Benefits offices. At the St. James campus the office is in room (-121). At the Nightingale and Casa Loma campuses, the Student Benefits office is located in the Student Association. Information on the plan and refund opportunities for those students already covered by alternate insurance can be found at the Student Benefits office, in the Student Handbook, "The Source".



Salads from \$2.29  
Soups \$2.79  
Classic Chili \$2.79  
Mega Wraps from \$2.79  
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**15% OFF all prices for GBC students**

## Your meals are wrapped up

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(on the way to and from the college)



# OUR COMMUNITY WE'RE NUMBER ONE!



Toronto Sun Readers agree. George Brown College was voted the Best College in Toronto by Sun readers. A smiling Frank Sorochinsky (right) accepts the award from Sun Publisher and CEO Mark Stevens. The award ceremony took place at the CN tower. Other winners included the Toronto Blue Jays and Pizza, Pizza.

## SELF INJURY, SELF COMFORT

by Boni,  
Dialog Collective Staff Writer

The following subject matter is uncomfortable to read and controversial. If the concept of self-injury upsets you I would suggest that you do not view the following material.

Anyone who works in a health care or social services with vulnerable populations has seen the results of 'self injury'. Or 'SI' as the medical profession would term it. Included in the list according to medical literature, are: bulimia, anorexia and overeating excessive nail biting (what is excessive?) 52% of the population indulge this behaviour until age 6) excessive smoking (30% or better depending on location, of all North American adults smoke) women who are in relationships with physical abusers (minimum 1/10 of the female population. According to one study, 49% of college educated males disclosed that they had "slapped" a woman at least once in anger. In another, college survey 53% stated that it was acceptable to force sex

on a woman if she was under the influence.) excessive (?) substance use, overuse of prescription medications women who go out alone at night because it is a "dangerous behaviour" men and women who indulge in sadomasochistic sexual behaviour those who have elective plastic surgery other behaviours such as slashing, self-beating, ritualistic self-piercing etc. etc. I found the list ludicrous, myself. In fact, I have never met a single human being that has not been involved in at least one of these behaviours at some time in their lives. Perhaps I don't get out enough or something in all tribal societies that I have ever studied, ritual self-injury has been a part of the process of releasing emotion when words were not sufficient. Tattooing, piercing, scarification, burning, binding and hair pulling as well as a host of other injurious behaviours have all been considered normal. These actions are not viewed in a negative light, they are viewed as one of the natural expressions of human pain. In Euro-American society the

catharsis of emotional pain has been suppressed to an atrocious degree and



emotional or physical catharsis is often labelled 'a mental

health issue.'

According to the medical literature, oddly enough, self-injury is counted as HIGHER amongst middle and upper class professionals. Perhaps this population is more likely to seek long-term therapy or perhaps they suffer the most suppression of emotional pain—my bet is that they are the ones most likely to seek mental help as opposed to medical help, due to the feelings of shame around the behaviours. I also suspect that medical staff treats them with greater kindness in many cases, therefore, they are more likely to follow up on suggestions to engage in long-term therapy. When humans self-injure, they are accused of being suicidal, "looking for attention" and "manipulation" of loved ones or social services staff. Yet, most people who self-injure go to incredible lengths to hide their secret habits for many years. When they finally 'come out' or are forced 'out' as self-injurious, too often they are often accused of having 'borderline personalities', shoved into a psychiatric box, medicated, and no longer taken seriously

when they verbally express their suffering and discontent. Once the label is slapped on their foreheads, forevermore they are treated as not having anything further to contribute to the advancement of the human race. This is not to negate the effect of behaviours that cause serious physical and emotional problems for those who self-injure. However, there is usually a long history of much more minor incidents previous to the time when that person will require medical intervention. If we lessen the shame and stop reacting with outraged shock or facetiously ignoring some of the lesser self-injurious behaviours and accept the behaviours as 'self-comforting' in times of great stress, perhaps these patterns would not escalate and become ingrained coping mechanisms. Certainly, the attitudes of social services, corrections and the medical profession are not improving the behaviours I see in my client base. Something to Think About! BoniComments can be sent to [MelisRebel@hotmail.com](mailto:MelisRebel@hotmail.com)



# COMMUNITY

## A Veteran's Story

by D. Maugrann Mooney  
Student Association

From start to finish it took six years, eleven months, and nine days. If I had gone to school during that time I would have several degrees in any of a number of subjects. How do other young women spend their youth? I sometimes wonder who I would be right now if my life had been different.

I spent this precious, tender, wondrous time in life at war. Ironically, I was born into the army and grew up on army bases across Canada. I joined the army myself at the age of seventeen and served for four years. I served my Country at home during the Gulf War. Though I have never fought on a battlefield that other war Veterans, I suffer from the same condition Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. My prisoner of war camp was my home in childhood, and the enemy was my Father and Mother.

Countries go to war for a purpose or a common good. My campaign was to gain freedom and to prove that it is not all right for grown men to have any kind of sexual

relationship with children, that children are a gift not property, and that it is never acceptable for one human being to beat, threaten or seek to destroy another.

As I share this story with you I can honestly say that I have used every tool available to win my war, and now that it is over I am not sure if I have won anything. Now that it is over for me, I know that my family didn't get it, and everyday in Canada there are children being tortured in their own homes; there are women shoving clothing and belongings into garbage bags fleeing for their lives.

I am thirty years old now, I am not a lawyer (yet) nor am I a Psychologist, but I have gone through the Canadian system and I am painfully aware of what is available to victims in

our province. What is considered a crime outside the home needs to be recognized as a crime inside the home. The front door of a home should not act as a sanctuary for sex offenders and men who torture innocent women and children. When a survivor of a crime needs help we need to say more than I am sorry that happened to you. We need laws to protect our families from violence. We need a social safety net that assists people in their healing so that they may go on to lead productive lives.

I left my abuser at the age of 19. It was not a celebration the night I left my parent's home. Earlier that evening, my Father tried to slit my throat with a butcher knife and then retired to his bed with a bottle of wine. I shook with fear waiting and wondering if he would come back and kill me. I strongly considered waiting until he passed out to kill him. Honestly the only thing that prevented that murder was the

preservation to see my doctor. I was diagnosed with severe depression. The doctor promptly prescribed Prozac® to solve all my woes. The doctor put so much faith in this little pill, and I put my faith in my doctor. She told me to go to social services to get a drug card to pay for the medication. I had next to no money to speak of let alone afford the expensive drug Prozac. I had a budget of 35 cents per day to buy a package of Mr. Noodles for dinner after I paid my rent. I had walked to the social services office in Halifax to request a drug card and when I got there the worker told me I could not have one. I cried and tried to explain that I needed this medication to stay alive. I walked home that gray afternoon feeling that my life was not worth the \$30 needed to purchase Prozac.

During this time of depression I did not have the luxury of sitting around and maybe that is what eventually got me out of it.

abusers and relocate to Ottawa. The hope was to go to College and get an education. I applied for a student loan to attend Algonquin College. I chose a practical course; to become a secretary. The loan I did receive was not enough to cover the cost of the course. The Canada student loan of \$3,000 considered my parent's income and the amount I received was after a final appeal. I was forced to drop out of College. I met and married a man I would not have coffee with today and proceeded to have two children. The man I chose to spend my life with was not very ambitious, he was

me at the time, but triggered the beginning of my journey. I began experiencing flashbacks. My husband at the time would come home and find me crying on the floor. I could not sleep at night because of incredible nightmares. I would pace the floor late at night counting the days to my sister's arrival.

From the moment my sister walked through the door that first day until the moment she left we spoke of the abuse we had endured in our childhood. In the intermission I gave birth to my daughter Jessica. It has been said that while in the womb children can sense what is going on outside. Jessica today is a very sensitive child and cries

easily. She tries too hard to please others and is willing to do anything to keep the peace. It haunts me how the fear and anxiety I experienced affects her to this day.

I became very angry and concerned for my daughter's safety. I went to my family doctor to get a referral for counseling. I could not afford \$120 per hour that Psychologists charge to give therapy, and went to the Jewish

Family Services in Ottawa. I called the Ottawa Police. January 1994 a Police Detective came to my apartment; over a cup of tea he told me that cases like mine were at best hard to prove and difficult to convict. He could not promise me anything and told me that I would need either my sister or brother to testify in court in order to go ahead with my case. It took several months to convince my sister to come forward. She was still living with my parents and she wasn't at the same place in the healing process that I was in. This caused a great strain on our relationship because we were proceeding on my timetable.

to be continued

Illustration by Allan Stokell

smaller than me,

Poverty is

a mean abuser in itself. I made many decisions throughout this illness. Some decisions I would not make today. If the Advocate and Counselor I am today had the opportunity to go and counsel the woman I was then I would tell her that her life was definitely more valuable than \$30. In fact it would infuriate me that a social worker could make such a snap judgement of this woman's case. I know for a fact that I would have contacted the Municipal government and written a letter of support of this woman for the required money and medication expenses required for her to survive and heal.

The woman I was back then, did not know what to do, but she did do what was necessary to survive. I chose to leave Halifax and my

and I perceived him as safe because he could not beat me like my father did. I dated him for one year before we married and I was eight months pregnant on my wedding day. Four people attended my special day, and when the Minister looked at me and said "You have to learn how to forgive" I should have run away.

In December of 1993 I was very pregnant with my second child Jessica. I was now married and my eldest daughter Kathleen was 13 months old. I was preparing for the holidays, my sister's visit, trending to Pumpkin Girl (a nickname I gave Kathleen because she was born near Halloween) and dealing with a high risk pregnancy. I had gone for an ultra sound and was told that I was carrying a girl. This news was pleasing to

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# ACCESSABILITY

## ACCESS DENIED

by Judith Allan  
Abilities Activist

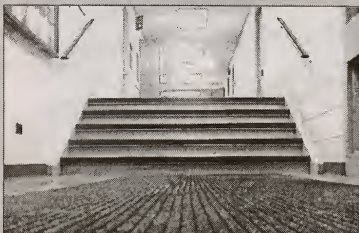
Many students with disabilities will be aware of the changes that have taken place in Disability Services. Donna and Ellen, members of Disability Services support staff, have had their offices moved to a new location in Deaf Services. For the new or not aware, the Deaf Services office is located on the mezzanine level of St. James campus. This office can only be reached by using the stairs located next to Registration, or by a set of five stairs near the Dialog Collective office.

This move is apparently the first stage of the restructuring that will see Disability and Deaf Services share a single office on the main floor. In the long run this move will of course, make access to these departments of the college much easier for students

with disabilities. In the meantime however, the move has only served to make access more challenging.

It is obviously ludicrous to put in office for students with disabilities in a

Since the middle of December, the Organization of Students with a Disability has been working to have this move reversed until a location that is completely accessible can be found. To



location that they are unable to access. Doing this as sent clear message to students with disabilities; this message is that their needs don't count. This is unacceptable.

date, this effort has proved unsuccessful. Meetings are however still ongoing with Student Affairs.

Presently, Management appears to be working on the premise that short-

term inability to access services is less important than long-term restructuring goals. This attitude does not appear to take into account the daily limitation in access that students with disabilities experience. This is sending a clear message to students with disabilities, and this message is that their needs don't count.

Students with disabilities, and those who support their right to fair and equal access need to work together and have their voices heard.

To become a part of the movement to returned full access to Disability Services for students with disabilities, drop in note expressing your support to Susan Stylianos, Director of Student Affairs, or e-mail me your letter of support to [accessdiv@altavista.com](mailto:accessdiv@altavista.com)

**"A LITTLE  
SINCERITY IS A  
DANGEROUS  
THING, AND A  
GREAT DEAL  
OF IT, IS  
ABSOLUTELY  
FATAL."  
OSCAR WILDE**

# THE ARTS

## HENRI MATISSE

by Sera Gordon  
Dialog Collective Writer

"In the beginning you must subject yourself to the influence of nature. You must be able to walk firmly on the ground before you start walking on the tightrope.

I don't paint things I only paint the difference between things.

What I dream of is an art of balance, of purity and serenity devoid of troubling or depressing subject matter."

Henri Matisse

### Lonely

Henri Matisse, the name itself conjures images of beauty, and selfless wanting. Lying on the riverbank in Le Cateau in the northeastern area of France. I am here at his birthplace. Born in 1869 to a modest family Henri Matisse started life as we all do. In his early 20's in 1890 he went off to Paris to pursue a law career. Paying very little attention to the world of art, in fact he did not attend one gallery during this time. Fortunately for the rest of the world he became very sickly with appendicitis. Bedridden Monsieur Matisse asked his mother to get him a set of paints. Unable to attend work Matisse picked up a paintbrush and started painting. It was here that he started tracing works from other artists. What of art he has never fully recovered. It is hard to tell if Matisse ever recovered from his life experiences, or tried to paint his idea of paradise.

### Passionately

Henri Matisse was the prodigy of Bouquereau, and Gustave Moreau (1895-1898) it is here that he met his mentors. Matisse started with reproduction to help learn reproduction, during this time he visited the Louvre many times, making copies of paintings that he was studying (David de Heem, Raphael, Nicolas Poussin, the Cavacci, Francois Boucher, Antoine Watteau, Jose Ribera, Eugene Delacroix, and Chardin in particular) Matisse brings out the true essence of an artist's life. He never gave up on his passion. Even after having been refuted by his professors. When he first started exhibiting his work, it was not very successful. In 1905 he began to paint with pure primary color to signify the structural elements he wanted to achieve. Paying strong attention to using a

freer brush stroke and a less conventional color scheme. Concentrating on masses, rather than detail.

### Detailed

In 1896 while on holiday in Belle Ile Matisse met with John Russell, an Australian artist, who was also a friend of Monet's. It was here that he was first introduced to Impressionism.

In 1898 Matisse traveled to Corsica in the Mediterranean with his wife (the year of his marriage)- the trip had a dramatic effect on his life. One that would continuously live on in his paintings right up until the end of his life. The paintings that he created in Corsica - The Invalid - are Matisse's first attempts to free color from outline. Looking up to Cézanne he taught himself to pay attention to draftsmanship. It was during this time that Matisse started developing into the artist that we know today. His strong appreciation for bold color schemes made him stand apart from the artists of his time. At about the same time a lot influential critics were noticing Matisse.

### Fauvism

-The Wild Beasts -

Wild- wild / adjective in original natural state; not domesticated, cultivated, or civilized; unrestrained, disorderly; tempestuous; intensely eager, frantic; (+ about colloquial enthusiastically devoted to; colloquial infuriated, random, ill-aimed, rash. Adverb in a wild way. Noun wild place, desert.

Beast- noun animal, esp. wild mammal; brutal person; colloquial disliked person or thing.

Between the years of 1898-1908 there was a short-lived painters movement called the Fauves. They were a group of artists known for their flare, and shocking color combinations, which Matisse was inevitably the leader of. The label never stuck, as the group did not acknowledge the title put upon them. I think that by having looked at the Matisse exhibit at the AGO I can understand why they were referred to as wild beasts. The paintings that Matisse is so well known for are good examples of the bright intense colors that he used as his palette. Matisse was enthusiastic about his painting career as he gave up a law clerk career to follow his dream. His style of painting was definitely wild, and all over the place as he changed styles quite a bit. Apparently his demeanor was something less than to be desired. He was known

as being a stubborn man with a flare in his temper. By no means was he easy to get along with. Ahhh the moody artist lifestyle.

### Devoted

Matisse continued to paint in a style that would attract many admirers during his lifetime. Including the Gertrude Stein, the Cote sisters, and a Russian collector. Matisse was earning all the respect he could have possibly ever hoped for in his lifetime. Like the true artist that he was Matisse experimented with many different styles, as well as working with bronze making sculptures. Unlike most artists Matisse was world-renowned during his lifetime. Even right up until the end of his life Matisse continued to create. In his late 70's when he was confined to a wheelchair, with cancer Matisse completed the colossal chapel of the Rosary in Venice. In his late 80's he went on to create paper cutouts. Creating with colored paper, scissors shapes that he would collage into vast pictures. Matisse died in Nice on November 3rd 1954 he was 85 years old. An artist until the end of his life.

### Attitude

On of the many pieces that Matisse is known for is the Large Reclining Nude (the Pink Nude), 1935 Oil on canvas 26" x 36" 1/2" (66x92.7cm) The Baltimore Museum of Art Maryland 'The Core Collection' This piece is very flat, with a good use of line in it to draw the viewer's attention to the form of the nude woman. What is interesting about this piece is the fact that in preparation for this painting he completed 22 different versions before completing the final piece. In the transformation you can see how he got frustrated with the yellow balloon that was originally flowers. It was refreshing to see the amount of work that it actually put into a piece of artwork instead of assuming that the final draft is the first draft. It conveys his expressive form first and his attention to detail second.

Studying about Matisse has truly inspired me. I now believe that it is never too late. In fact I have just purchased my first canvas.

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# THE ARTS

## THE PRINTING PRESS AS AN AGENT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

by Sera Gordon  
Revolutionary (Dialog Collective  
Volunteer)

Marshall McLuhan has shown us what has come through as a historical look at where mankind was and where mankind is, to where mankind is heading. It is important to recognize the fact that mankind is on a one way cyber journey towards the global village.

The Chinese first invented printing and paper. A tribal community. These people depended on the power of speech. Their intention was a slow and arduous one. It was initially for the use of prayer. Their secret was their secret and it remained so for quite some time. Historically man was not ready for such a technological discovery.

Before print, communication was mainly through vocal lecture. An example that McLuhan makes is how an African child depends on aural stimulation, while a Western child will be given toys to widen his mind. The African child without the abstract "toys" will grow in a different way, unaware of what his development could mean. He will respond to orders that are given to him aurally, but he will not be visually appeased in the world. His mind will not develop, and if it is not used it will die. Becoming capable of only filling an unskilled laborious position. While the invention of print has allowed man to extend beyond the lethargic mind, and experience thought and feeling on his own accord.

Cryptic

The Greeks and the Romans are attributed to recognizing that myth travels further than the identity of the written word. It is through the Greeks that we have been given the many tales and stories of mythological man. It is through these stories

that one can see the shift of human nature from a visual world of art to an auditory world of science to the electronic world of technology. On a more archaic standpoint superstition and folklore was what traditional life was all about. Without the use of print information was more steadily handed down through generations by word of mouth. Religion was based on thoughts much like myth and superstition. (As shown by James Frazer in the Golden Bough) Without the mythological nature of man we would not

have the fantasy world of folklore, or fairy tales that our children are brought up on. It is here that we are presented with divine intervention and taught how to dream. Every little girl grows up wanting to be Cinderella, and every little boy looks to find his

Greeks may be better able to deal with the tribal life, the Romans would be better equipped to live in the world that we live in.

### Alpha (ox) Beta (house)

The invention of the alphabet is one that is looked on to like the invention of the wheel. Or by today's standards the invention of the telephone. Many earliest known form of communication dates back to prehistory- to cave painting- to semiotics- pictographs- to ideographs- to 1600 BC with the Phoenicia alphabet developed to record the trading bus. It is here that the first writing tablets were made to record information. Cuneiform (clay tablets) were

beanstalk that will free him from the truth of his existence that he is expected to fulfill. With the printed word we are able to rationalize our perception of life and proselytize to the actual meaning of existence. It could therefore be true to note that this is the reason why Pythagoras and Socrates, who were most excellent teachers, did not want to write anything. Were they living in a mythological existence? Paper was an unknown medium to the Greeks. They had established themselves as artists using the surface of a pottery vase as their surface for drawing. They established a big export trade and were sending their products overseas to Aegina, Italy, and the East. The Romans relied on the existence of papyrus, when the supplies were in decline the Roman Empire collapsed. While the

used for writing

and wax tablets were also for writing, but were erasable. Paper was from China, papyrus was from Egypt, and parchment (vellum) came from Turkey. Most writings were of religious form. Interesting though how at first the church thought that the invention of the printing press (1440) was 'evil' until they realized the benefit that it

would have on religion and the travel of the printed word.

Despite print technology it was common in the Middle Ages for scholars to be marked on the books that they had in their possession. The common form of education was copying books so as to have as their own. Therefore proving what books they had been able to acquire for the purpose of reading. Without the visual aid the students would read aloud to themselves. It was common when infected with a cold one of the remedies was to stop reading, restricting stress on their vocal chords. (Knowledge from reading books is a new and modern standpoint on education) It is unthinkable in our day and time to have to acquire books by copying out textbooks. Or to have to create our own textbooks solely on the lectures given by our instructors. As pointed out by Hajnal this was the form of education. Do

you think that, as many people would be enrolled in the school system if this were the way that we were instructed? Personally I do not think so. I think that only the true scholar would pursue a university education, leaving the rest of society to the tedious mundane laborious jobs that needed to be done. Relying on stature instead of their mind.

Conceptual

The invention of the first printing press in 1440 by Johannes Gutenberg saw a technological advancement that would forever change the evolution of man. It was now possible for people to correspond with each other through mass production of type. It was groundbreaking because it allowed people to communicate with one another on a higher level. It wasn't until 1476 when William Caxton first set up the first printing press in England that it would have a profound effect on the way that people viewed religion, and the arts. In 1638 Stephen Daye brought North America's first printing press. Making it a central instrument for political and religious expression. Is this where propaganda first started? In the early 1800's extreme technological findings changed the printing industry again. Making it a more efficient form of communication. The advances seen on the printing revolution now it made news of the day accessible to everyone, not just the educated, and the wealthy.

The effect that the print revolution has had on society is one that can never be out done. Without the invention of the printing press we would not be able to live life to the standard that we are accustomed to. We would not be able to conceptualize life,

## Helping save lives

Captain Bruno Castonguay coordinates air rescue for the Canadian Forces. He and his colleagues and partners help Canadians in danger. They respond around the clock to emergencies on land or at sea and help save lives. This is just one of the hundreds of services provided by the Government of Canada.

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- Call 1 800 O-Canada (1 800 622-6232)
- TTY/TDD: 1 800 465-7735

Canada

## SONGWRITERS LISTEN UP



### Bluebird North #30

Check out the Rivoli, 334 Queen Street West on Tuesday, January 30th, 2001. The Songwriters Association of Canada. Host for the evening Sas Gordon, overnight singing, song writing star. Sas teamed up with Joe Cocker for the duet "Trust in me". Also appearing is Erin Benjamin, Stephen Fearing, Lorraine Lawson, Jason McCoy, Blaise Pascal and Peter Verity.

## MOVIES WORTH SEEING



### Toronto Film Critics Announce Awards

**Best Film:** *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

**Best Director:** Steven Soderbergh for *Traffic*

**Best Male Actor:** Benicio Del Toro for *Traffic*

**Best Female Actor:** Laura Linney for *You Can Count on Me*

**Best Canadian Film:** Gary Burn's *Waydowntown* Runner-up: Denis Villeneuve's *Maelstrom*

## KPIs—What Are They?

by Penelope Hyde-Smythe  
Dialog Collective Volunteer

Sometime next month almost every full-time student attending a community college in Ontario in their second semester and above will be asked to evaluate their program and their college's resources, services and facilities. This evaluation tool is known as KPI (Key Performance Indicators). Students starting their first semester in January will have their opportunity to complete their KPI's next February.

KPI's have been developed by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and the colleges in conjunction with student representatives. They are aimed at improving excellence in college programs.

The survey used to gather the information includes questions on how students would rate the college in specific areas. These areas include: the learning they are experiencing and its usefulness in their future employment; the quality of their learning experiences; the quality of the facilities and resources in the College; and the quality of the services provided by staff in the College.

Six months after you graduate,

you will be surveyed again to determine your employment status and your satisfaction with the training you received at George Brown. In addition, if you give permission, your employer will be surveyed to determine their satisfaction with how well you were

prepared for the world of work.

All of this information is key to developing new curriculum and improving existing course material as well as enhancing the services and resources available at George Brown.

It is critically important that students fairly evaluate George Brown College. John Price is the college's Special Projects Manager overseeing KPI administration at George Brown. "Student satisfaction is important at George Brown," says Price. "The student satisfaction survey in February is one important way to let all students at the college know that we value them and their opinions."

You can reach John at the President's Office, 416 415-2543

Can you write a movie review? The Dialog Collective is looking for you! Call Edwin or Maribelle at 416-

415-2710 [dialog@canada.com](mailto:dialog@canada.com)

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Friday, February 2, 2001  
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Escorts & House Staff Interviews  
12:00 pm Variety  
12:30 pm Singers/Actors  
2:30 pm Dancers

**VAUGHAN, ONTARIO**  
Paramount Canada's Wonderland  
Sat. and Sun, Feb. 3-4, 2001  
The Paramount Theatre  
12:00 pm-3:00 pm Technicians,  
Characters, Escorts &  
House Staff Interviews  
12:00 pm Variety  
12:30 pm Singers/Actors  
2:30 pm Dancers

For more information call 905.832.7454  
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# POTABLES

## WINTER ALES ARE A FEAST

by Matt Disney,  
Dialog Collective writer

If there is one thing that will drive the cold winter away, that is a truly good winter ale. Winter ales are a strange breed. They are usually higher in alcohol than those you sate in the summer and they quite often are as dark as a winter morning. Some beers currently available at the LCBO are:



Marston's Oyster Stout  
Morton Thompson and  
Evershed PLC,  
Burton-on-Trent,  
United Kingdom  
4.5% Alcohol by Volume  
Bottle Conditioned

An oyster in every bottle. NOT! Before we adjudicate this particular beer, we should first investigate the variety. In this instance it has two monikers of note. Bottle Conditioned refers to the fact that the beer has been bottled in the traditional fashion of English ales. The beers carbon dioxide can not be attributed to British Oxygen, but rather Mother Nature. If this were in draught form it

would be called real ale, but when these beers are bottled, instead of carbonating the product, the brewer adds a small amount of sugar. The sugar is eaten by the living yeast in the beer and produces carbon dioxide. A by-product of this fermentation is a small amount of yeast residue which rests at the bottom of the bottle.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO STORE THE BEER UPRIGHT AND DECANT THE WHOLE BOTTLE AT ONCE WHEN SERVING SO AS NOT TO DISTURB THE RESIDUE! Why am I shouting? Stout is an ale style that almost belongs to one brewer. Traditionally stout is very dark to the point of opaque, dry in the mouth with dry malt tones in the finish. Most of the bitterness comes from the roast of the malt.

The palette of Marston's Oyster Stout is sweet and thin, and the colour bold and orange brown and the finish thin with some malt bitterness. Very little from the hop. The oyster has



already left the building and any trace of it is no where to be found.

St. Peter's Winter Ale.  
6.5% Alcohol by volume  
St. Peter's Brewery,  
Bungay, Suffolk,  
United Kingdom.

There is little to be happy about between the Winter and Spring solstice. Dark, cold days of misery and solitude. A time when evil spirits are abroad and people huddle together in front of roaring fires for protection. Little wonder that centuries ago the English prepared for the hardships of winter. Often one of the ways to survive was to lay down excellent ales which could be consumed during the dark and dismal time in the dead of winter. They drank beer every day as they believed it had healthful properties. In the Middle Ages often water quality was poor, so people drank beer. It was only later that they realized that it was the boiling of the water in the production of ales that made beer so healthy. Our holiday celebrations often reflect many of those early traditions.

St. Peter was one of Christ's disciples. He was 'the rock', the basis of Western Christianity. It is not surprising that the brewery bearing his name produces one of the best ales of Christendom. This brewery is located in a medieval hall in a remote and beautiful area of the south east of England. For years pilgrims have made this a stop on their trek to the holy shrine of the martyred saint of Canterbury. Tradition has it that brewers would 'lay down' special winter beers. Ales expected to last a number of months rather than being consumed immediately,

had to be of higher gravity, or alcohol content. Many examples of these products survive to this day. None are more deserving of praise than St. Peter's Winter Ale. This small brewery in Suffolk, a southern county of England produce a fine range of traditional ales. St. Peter's Winter Ale is nothing short of a tour de force. The nose is full of black



currants and licorice, with hints of molasses. On the palette the beer has an excellent balance of carbonation with just the correct hop bitterness. The beer finishes very well. Alpha hops caress chocolate malt in an orgy of zymergical delight.

Find this beer. Buy as much as you can and cherish it until Spring solstice. Blessed are the beermakers, for they shall inherit the bars.

XO Beer,  
L&LSA,  
Cognac, France  
8% Alcohol by Volume

Ingredients: Beer, Cognac, Natural Aromas. Ding, ding, ding. Those are the warning bells. On the rare occasion when brewers feed it is necessary to list ingredients, one of them is never beer. This is not beer, it is a beer beverage. Velveeta® is not cheese, it is a cheese food. I am a human, not a consumer. This is beer for the uninitiated. The Olde English for the Mike's crowd.

Suspect clear bottles. Sleeman's can get away with it because they brew in Guelph, Ontario. Imported beers in clear bottles are always light-struck (your uncle probably calls it 'skunky'). Ignoring this fault, XO is one serious drinker. It is sweet and alcoholic. It is a beer beverage, not a beer. If you really are interested in quality beer, you will not be drinking this product. If you like the 8% buzz, I suggest you should be in treatment.

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# THE GIFT

THE ONLY IN PRESS TO DATE CRIME WAS NOT EASY TO GET

THE ONLY IN PRESS TO DATE CRIME WAS NOT EASY TO GET

IN THEATRES FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

by Sera Gordon,  
Dialog Collective  
Writer

Cheers and Welcome to the New Year!  
Year of the SNAKE!!  
During the winter holiday we have had a chance to rewind and get ready to get back to the grind, on line. Here we are....  
where we started in September. Its good to be back. To see my friends that I did not have a chance to hang with over the break. 3 weeks can be a long time. I am definitely not the same person I was at the beginning of the break. A little older (I had my 26th birthday on December 21st) a little wiser, and more in control of my destiny. I remember my first day of school, wondering how I was going to fit into this schematic of life. But here I am fitting in nicely. I think of school as my home away from home. (I spend so much time here!) And the results have been very rewarding! Fortunately as I am on the board of directors I am (finally) able to attend camp Tawingo for leadership camp. In high school I always wanted to be able to go! It has taken me an extra 10 years but I am going!! Its nice to be able to actualize a goal that I had in high school and had forgotten about along the way. Also due to my involvement with 'the DIALOG,' I am going to the Canadian University Press Conference, which is being held in Vancouver. ZOOM! I am really reaping the rewards of my involvement with school!!  
OK Enough about me lets talk about you, the student body of George Brown. What this paper is really about.

# HAS ANYONE MADE NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS?

...quitting smoking  
...meet new people  
...world domination  
...better marks @ school  
...download less porn  
...balanced lifestyle  
...less procrastination  
If so we want to hear about them. Let us know what they are, how they are going...so far. If you have you have been able to stick to them or not....

**\*\*Email your responses to**  
[kserasera@chickmail](mailto:kserasera@chickmail)

Lots of exciting things are happening in and around the school this semester. I know that in my program the instructors are making us get down to work ASAP! I already have 2 assignments that are due this week. Err or will have been handed in by the time this gets out.  
How many people realize that the text in this article is sans serif?  
Sorry John Ward, Maybe in the next copy I will get it together in time. I definitely know that I have to work on my grammar.....  
Ah, its effecting my marks at school.

# RUMORS (hah) & Things To Make You Think.....

-Why is there stairs in front of the downstairs elevator?  
-Why does no one know what KPI stands for?  
-Why is the Burger King in the Cafeteria more expensive then the Burger King on Yonge Street?  
-Why are the pizza slices @ Pizza Pizza in the cafeteria so much smaller then any other pizza pizza slices in Toronto?  
- Why is the homophobic graffiti in the St James mens bathroom in the

basement not been removed after 6 months?  
- Why is the lock on the disabled cubicle still broken after a year?

If you know of things that are going on around the school that WE SHOULD KNOW Please send us all of the necessary info and we will investigate!  
Cheers & Happy New Years.....SERA!

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# Do You Know What KPI Stands For? "Key Performance Indicator"



**Selena Dookhoo**  
Business Management  
NO



**Konstantin**  
Business Marketing  
NO



**Jesse Laughland**  
Graphic Design  
NO



**RUDI**  
Business Marketing  
NO



**Bessie Gonzalez**  
Business Management  
NO



**Alex**  
Accounting  
NO



**Erika Canizalez**  
Business Management  
NO



**Nick, Billy, Adam, Mike**  
Graphic Production  
Yes



**Maria**  
Aramark  
NO



**Scott**  
Graphic Production  
"Kill me please I don't want to go to class"

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## STUDENT ASSOCIATION EVENTS

### JANUARY

- 24 CHINESE NEW YEAR pub @ St. James-Come & Celebrate!!!  
29 MIDDAY Meet N'Eat: Health & Nutrition @ Nightingale

### FEBRUARY

## AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

- 07 African Heritage Pub- HONOUR your ROOTS @ CASA LOMA  
14 Valentine's Day-lovin' love @ St. James pub  
26 MIDDAY Meet N'Eat: BLACK culture & Community @ Casa Loma



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(2 Bk. N. of College)  
344 Queen St. W.  
Queen St. W.  
416 260-2633  
(East of Spadina)

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755 The Queensway E  
WHITBY 905 728-2868  
1624 Dundas Street E.  
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255 Queen Street E.  
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Study French at the Summer Language Bursary Program this summer!

- \$1,625 bursary covers tuition fees, meals, accommodations.
- You'll have a chance to see another part of Canada.
- A five-week course leaves you lots of time to earn money during the rest of the summer.

### WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Contact your student awards and placement office, the office of the provincial or territorial coordinator nearest you, or visit us online at [www.cmec.ca/olp/](http://www.cmec.ca/olp/), or call 1.877.866.4242. Ces renseignements sont disponibles en français.

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**THE LOVE  
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